

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3610 IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0661

EXDIS

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT DAR ES SALAAM AND NAIROBI FOR ASSISTANT
SECRETARY DAVIS FROM WALKER JUNE 20 REPEATED FOR ACTION/INFO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0661

LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS FROM WALKER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PDEV, PDIP, US, MZ

SUBJECT: SUGGESTION CONCERNING VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

1. TODAY WE ARE REPORTING IN SEPTTEL FACT THAT PRESIDENT SAMORA
MACHEL AGAIN REITERATED PUBLICLY THAT MOZAMBIQUE WAS OPEN TO
RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES. AT JUNE 19 CENTRAL COMMITTEE
MEETING SPEECH PUBLISHED IN PRESS HE SAID: "THE GOVERNMENT
OF MOZAMBIQUE WILL ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES,
ESPECIALLY WITH THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNTRIES...WE WILL ESTABLISH
RELATIONS ALSO WITH THE SO-CALLED 'FREE WORLD'...WE WILL ALSO
DISCUSS OUR FUTURE RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA--THIS IS A FACT:
WE HAVE A FRONTIER WITH SOUTH AFRICA. AS TO RHODESIA, WE ARE
ENGAGED IN THE STRUGGLE."

2. MACHEL'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS TOGETHER WITH WHAT VIEIRA TOLD
AMBASSADOR CARTER MAY 23 ON MOZAMBIQUE'S BEHALF CONVINCE ME
THAT MOZAMBIQUE INTENDS TO AGREE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

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DELIVERY BY ME OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER WAS, I BELIEVE,

IMPORTANT. I REGRET THAT I WAS NOT ABLE TO DELIVER IT 24 HOURS EARLIER BEFORE PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO LEFT FOR A CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING BECAUSE I AM SURE THAT QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS MORE THAN LIKELY THAT CHISSANO'S CHIEF OF CABINET WILL HAVE CONVEYED THE GIST OF THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO CHISSANO EVEN BEFORE HE RETURNS.

3. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM LOURENCO MARQUES 656 REPEATED INFO BOTH TO DAR ES SALAAM AND NAIROBI, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THORNY AND AWKWARD QUESTIONS REGARDING THE TRANSITION, FOLLOWING THE CLOSURE OF THE CONSULATE PRIOR TO AN AGREEMENT ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. MY OWN STATUS IS NOT AT ALL CLEAR AND ALTHOUGH I WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MAINTAIN THE LIAISON BETWEEN THE USG AND THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE, THERE IS NO TELLING WHETHER PROCEDURAL AND PERSONAL OBSTACLES WILL BE PLACED IN MY WAY. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST FOR YOUR PERSONAL REACTION THAT YOU CONSIDER VISITING LOURENCO MARQUES AFTER INDEPENDENCE AND BEFORE YOUR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES. I KNOW FROM YOUR SCHEDULE THAT YOU WILL BE IN AFRICA THROUGH JUNE 28, RETURNING TO THE U.S. VIA BRUSSELS ON JUNE 29. WHILE I CANNOT BE SURE, I HAVE A STRONG FEELING THAT THE FRELIMO LEADERS, WHO HAVE NOT WISHED TO NEGOTIATE WITH US PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE CONCERNING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, WOULD WELCOME VISIT BY YOU AFTER INDEPENDENCE. YOUR VISIT WOULD PERSONALLY DEMONSTRATE THE CONTINUITY OF OUR SUPPORT FOR MOZAMBIQUE, REPRESENT A GESTURE TOWARD MACHEL AND ENABLE US TO BUTTON UP DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ON A GOOD NOTE.

4. THE MAJOR PROBLEM I FORESEE, OTHER THAN THE QUESTION OF WHETHER YOU AND WASHINGTON WOULD VIEW SUCH A VISIT AS CONSISTENT WITH OUR PRESENT POSTURE AND POLICY, IS ONE OF MODALITIES. IT WILL OBVIOUSLY BE DIFFICULT FOR ME TO ARRANGE FOR YOUR VISIT AT A TIME WHEN MOZAMBIQUE IS FLOODED WITH VISITING PRIME MINISTERS, DELEGATIONS, JOURNALISTS, ETC. NEVERTHELESS, I THINK THE CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT I WOULD SUCCEED IN SEEING PRIME MINISTER CHISSANO NEXT WEEK AND PROPOSING A VISIT BY YOU FOR WORKING SESSIONS ON LET US SAY MONDAY, JUNE 30. THIS WOULD PROBABLY GIVE THE NEWLY APPOINTED GOVERNMENT THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME TO ORGANIZE ITSELF TO RECEIVE YOU. OBVIOUSLY
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THE MAJOR QUESTION WOULD BE WHETHER PRESIDENT MACHEL FELT PREPARED TO DO SO AT SUCH AN EARLY DATE.

5. I THINK A VISIT BY YOU SOON AFTER INDEPENDENCE, IF AGREED TO, WOULD BE VERY PRODUCTIVE. I WOULD WELCOME YOUR IMMEDIATE PERSONAL REACTION OR YOU MAY WISH TO CONSULT WITH WASHINGTON, IF YOU THINK THE IDEA HAS ANY MERIT. ALTERNATIVELY, YOU MIGHT WISH ME TO MAKE THE INITIAL SUGGESTION IN A CABLE TO

WASHINGTON.

WALKER

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